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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Committee on the Development of Trade

Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Trade and Development Board

Advisory Services on Trade Documentation

TRADE DOCUMENTATION INFORMATION

DEFINITIVE ICS STANDARD BILL OF LADING

(Note by the Inter-regional Adviser on Trade Documentation)

1. In document E/ECE/TRADE/WP.4/INF.3:TD/B/ASTD/INF.3 of 12 July 1971, information was given about the new recommendations issued by the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) containing the revised ICS Standard Bill of Lading recommended to be adopted as from 1 January 1972.

2. Besides an account of background and development justifying the revision of the 1963 recommendations on standard format of Bills of Lading, the new recommendations include the following:

> "In the knowledge that the ECE layout key has been adopted by many countries not only those who are members of the Economic Commission for Europe and that the use of documents based on this layout is being continually extended, shipowners are recommended to adopt bills of lading based on the revised ICS Standard Bill of Lading from 1 January 1972.
>
> It is envisaged that, because of special national requirements minor variations may have to be adopted in some countries.
>
> Shipowners operating container services are also recommended, wherever possible, to take account of the information given in paragraph 3, which details the position of specialized container shipment information.
>
> When printing bills of lading the "ICS-stamp" shown in the bottom left-hand corner should be reproduced to make it clear to all concerned that the bill of lading is based on the latest ICS recommended layout."

3. The recommended position of specialized container information on bills of lading is set out as follows:

GE.72-1389

	Recommended position (for column numbers see Appendix)
(a) Container owner's marks and special numbers These details should be shown in addition to any information that is required concerning the marks and numbers of individual packages	Column 10
(b) Container size and type These two codes can be shown below the owner's mark and serial numbers. They should be laid out as recommended by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), e.g. EACU 123456 1040	Column 10
(c) Seal No. This information can be shown below the container type and size details	Column 10
(d) Movement Code (e.g. Pier to Pier, House to House, Full Container Load, Less than Container Load) This information can be shown in the lower half of this column underneath the description of the goods	Column 11

4. The model form including printing specifications is appended. As regards the change-over from the earlier version and the 1971 provisional version of the Standard Bill of Lading it is felt that national masters and national aligned series should be revised at the earliest possible opportunity. Shipping Lines will be asked to maintain the provisional version until the various national aligned series have been revised.

BILL OF LADING

B/L No.

Reference No.

1. Shipper

2. Consignee

3. Notify address

INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF SHIPPING

STANDARD BILL OF LADING

1 Jan. 1972

Free disposal

4. Pre-carriage by* †

5. Place of receipt by pre-carrier* †

6. Vessel

7. Port of loading

8. Port of discharge

9. Place of delivery by on-carrier* †

10. Marks and Nos.

11. Number and kind of packages; description of goods

13. Gross weight

14. Measurement

All measurements including lines.

1 inch—25.4 mm.
1 cicero—12 points—European Typographical Measurement (Didot).
1 em—12 points—British-American Typographical Measurement.
1 point (cicero)—0.376 mm.
1 point (em)—0.351 mm.

	Inch		Millimeter		Didot typog. cicero & points	British-Ame. typographic. em & points
	each	accumulated from paper edge	each	accumulated from paper edge		
A	0.4		10		cic. pts.	em pts.
B	1	1.4	25.5	35.5	5 6	6
C	1	2.4	25.5	61	5 8	6
D	1	3.4	25.5	86.5	5 8	6
E	1/3	3.73	8.5	95	1 10	2
F	1/3	4.07	8	103	1 10	2
G	1/3	4.4	8.5	111.5	2	2
H	5 2/3	10.07	144	255.5	31 10	34
I	1/3	10.4	8.5	264	1 10	2
J	1 1/3	11.7	33	297		
K	0.8		20			
L	1.8	2.6	46	66	10 2	10 10
M	1.8	4.4	45.5	111.5	10 2	10 10
N	1.8	6.2	46	157.5	10 2	10 10
P	0.9	7.1	23	180.5	5	5 4
R	0.9	8	22.5	203	5 2	5 6
S	0.3	8.3	7	210		
T	2.7	3.5	69	89	15 2	16 2
U	1.8	5.3	45.5	134.5	10 2	10 10
V	2.7	8.0	68.5	203	15 4	16 4

Free disposal

Freight details, charges, etc. ††

SHIPPED on board in apparent good order ... ††

15. Freight payable at

16. Place and date of issue

17. Number of original Bs/L

18. Signature

ICS B/L 1 Jan. 72

* Applicable only when document used as a Through Bill of Lading

† When designing Bills of Lading for combined transport shipments it is suggested that the wording of box 4 and the words "by pre-carrier" and "by on-carrier" in boxes 5 and 9 respectively may be deleted

†† Suggested positions for these details within the free disposal area